

B2 wherein a test-maker and a proprietor of the host means share the revenues generated by the test-taker taking the test.

Kindly cancel claims 12, 16 and 17 without prejudice or disclaimer.

REMARKS

By the present amendment, claim 1 has been amended to incorporate the subject matter of allowable claim 12, claims 18-20 have each been amended to clarify that a test-maker and a proprietor share the revenues generated by the test-taker taking the test, and claims 12, 16 and 17 have been canceled. Upon entry of this amendment, claims 1-10, 13, 15, and 18-21 will be pending in the application and a clean listing of the claims is attached for the Examiner's convenience.

The allowance of claim 15 and the indicated allowability of claim 12 are noted with appreciation. By the present amendment, the subject matter of claim 12 (which depended directly from claim 1) has been incorporated into claim 1, whereby claim 1, and claims 2-11 and 13 depending therefrom, are believed to be in a condition for allowance. Specifically, claim 1 now clarifies that the test-maker and the proprietor of the host system share the revenues generated by the test-taker taking the test. Claim 18 now specifies that a test-maker and a proprietor of the first computer share the revenues generated by the test-taker taking the test, claim 19 now specifies that a test-maker and a proprietor of the host computer share the revenues generated by the test-taker taking the test, and claim 20 now specifies that a test-maker and a proprietor of the host means share the revenues generated by the test-taker taking the test. It is respectfully submitted that the systems set forth in claims 18-20, and claim 21 depending from claim 20, are neither shown nor suggested by the applied art.

Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, the present application is believed to be in a condition for allowance and an early indication to that effect is earnestly solicited.

Should a petition for an Extension of Time be necessary for the timely reply to the outstanding Office Action (or if such a petition has been made and an additional extension is necessary), petition is hereby made and the Commissioner is authorized to charge any fees (including additional claim fees) to Deposit Account No. 18-0988, Order No. TESTP0101US.

Respectfully submitted,

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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING (37 CFR 1.8a)

I hereby certify that this paper (along with any paper referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being deposited with the United States Postal Service on the date shown below with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.

Date: September 30, 2002

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1. A method of making a test and posting the test on-line for potential test-takers, said method comprising the steps of:

providing a host system and a plurality of remote terminals operatively coupled to the Internet;

inputting questions at one of the remote terminals;

compiling the questions at the host system to make a compiled test;

posting the test on-line for potential test-takers;

wherein a test-taker is required to pay to take the compiled test; and

wherein the test-maker and the proprietor of the host system share the revenues generated by the test-taker taking the test.

2. A method as set forth in claim 1 including the steps of providing a home page that is accessible to both potential test-makers and test-takers and that allows users to cast themselves as either a test-maker or a test-taker.

3. A method as set forth in claim 1 wherein the test-maker is required to input an identifier.

4. A method as set forth in claim 1 further including the steps of editing a compiled test.

5. A method as set forth in claim 1 wherein the step of posting the step includes placing the compiled test in a directory for access by potential test-takers.

6. A method as set forth in claim 5 wherein the directory has a plurality of categories corresponding to different types of tests and wherein the compiled test is placed in the appropriate category.

7. A method as set forth in claim 6 wherein the step of placing the compiled test in a directory includes the steps of placing a just-made test into a temporary

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category, reviewing the test to determine the appropriate category, and then placing the test into the appropriate category.

8. A method as set forth in claim 7 further comprising the step of receiving input from the test-maker as to the appropriate category.

9. A method as set forth in claim 5 wherein the test-taker chooses a test from the directory.

10. A method as set forth in claim 9 wherein the test-taker is allowed to preview the test chosen from the directory.

13. A method as set forth in claim 1 wherein the compiled test is placed in a restricted directory and the test-taker must have know a password to access the compiled test.

15. A method of posting a test on-line for potential test-takers, said method comprising the steps of:

providing a host system and a plurality of remote terminals operatively coupled to the Internet;

placing a test in a restricted directory for potential test-takers;

requiring a test-taker to input a password to have access to the restricted directory;

wherein the restricted directory includes academic practice tests and wherein a school enrolls students at a set cost per school year.

18. A system for generating and posting an on-line test, comprising:

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a first computer operatively coupled to the Internet, the first computer including software means for generating the test and software means for posting the test on the Internet; and

a second computer operatively coupled to the Internet, the second computer operative to allow a user to take the test and receive test results;

wherein a test-taker is required to pay to take the compiled test; and

wherein the test-maker and a proprietor of the first computer share the revenues generated by the test-taker taking the test.

19. A system for generating and posting an on-line test, comprising:

a host computer operatively coupled to a network backbone, the host computer including means for generating the test and means for posting the test;

a first computer operatively coupled to the host computer, the first computer being operative to generate questions for the test; and

a second computer operatively coupled to the host computer, the second computer operative to take the test;

wherein a test-taker is required to pay to take the compiled test; and

wherein a test-maker and a proprietor of the host computer share the revenues generated by the test-taker taking the test.

20. A system for generating and posting an on-line test, comprising:

host means, coupled to a network backbone, for generating the test and for posting the test;

means, operatively coupled to the host means, for generating questions for the test; and

means, operatively coupled to the host means, for taking the test;

wherein a test-taker is required to pay to take the compiled test; and

wherein a test-maker and a proprietor of the host means share the revenues generated by the test-taker taking the test.

21. A method as set forth in claim 1 wherein the host system includes a procedure for opening an account for a test-taker.

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